

# CCIFA Weekly News

No.25 11-15 September 2017

**Revue de presse hebdomadaire/Përmbledhja javore e shtypit /Weekly press review**  
**Activité hebdomadaire de la CCIFA /Aktiviteti javor i CCIFA /CCIFA Weekly activity**



*Les opinions exprimées dans CCI FA Weekly News n'engagent que les magazines cités / Opinionet e shprehura në CCI FA Weekly News janë ato të revistave të përmendura /The opinions expressed in CCI FA Weekly News are the sole responsibility of the cited magazines*

## Réunion de la task force Ville durable autour de

**MEDEF**  
55 avenue Bosquet  
75007 Paris  
Mercredi 25 octobre 2017  
de 08h30 à 10h00

**M. Erion VELIAJ – Maire de Tirana**

*présidée par*

**M. Jean-Louis MARCHAND,**

Nous avons le plaisir de vous inviter à participer à une réunion autour de **M. Erion VELIAJ, Maire de Tirana**, le mercredi 25 octobre 2017 de 8h30 à 10h au MEDEF (55 avenue Bosquet, Paris 7ème), **présidée par M. Jean-Louis MARCHAND, Président de la Fédération de l'industrie européenne de la Construction (FIEC), Vice-président de la task force Ville durable de MEDEF International.**

L'Albanie affiche une volonté de réforme dans l'optique d'adhérer à l'Union Européenne. Avec une croissance de 3,4% en 2016 et une notable réduction du déficit public, le pays présente d'importantes opportunités de développement, en particulier dans le domaine urbain.

Cœur économique du pays, agglomération de près d'1M d'habitants, Tirana a changé de visage avec l'arrivée en 2006 de M. Edi Rama, aujourd'hui Premier ministre. M. Erion Veliaj poursuit aujourd'hui les réformes vouées à répondre durablement à l'urbanisation sauvage, au manque de ressources - notamment en eau - et d'infrastructures pour accompagner la croissance démographique rapide de la capitale albanaise.

Cette réunion sera l'occasion de mieux comprendre les axes de développement de Tirana (eco-quartiers, transports urbains, gestion et valorisation des déchets, eau et assainissement, énergie, bâtiments durables...) et de faire part au Maire de vos projets dans la capitale ou les solutions proposées par votre entreprise.

Nous comptons sur votre présence et vous remercions de bien vouloir vous inscrire en ligne avant le vendredi 20 octobre 2017.

[http://crm.e-deal.net/medef/evenement\\_programme.fl?id=0001000002471400&perID=000100000030f6d&preview=off](http://crm.e-deal.net/medef/evenement_programme.fl?id=0001000002471400&perID=000100000030f6d&preview=off)

English:

<http://www.ccifa.al/single-news/n/meeting-on-the-sustainable-city-task-force-with-mr-erion-veliaj-mayor-of-tirana-for-your-information-and-for-all/>

The logo for CCI France Albanie Recruitment Services is a dark blue rectangle with white text. The text is arranged in three lines: "CCI France Albanie" on the top line, "RECRUITMENT" on the middle line, and "SERVICES" on the bottom line. The background of the rectangle features a faint, stylized map of the world.

CCI France Albanie  
RECRUITMENT  
SERVICES

**The Chamber of Commerce and Industry  
France-Albania recruits for one of its clients!**

### **Job Posting Head of Customer**

Founded in 2012, Mogo is a financial institution active in financial leasing in the automotive field, with presence in several countries such as Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Georgia, Poland, Romania, Bulgaria and Armenia. The dynamic development of Mogo is possible due to strong capital support, an efficient technology solution and sound management of loan portfolio which currently reached 90 million.

We are looking for specialists to launch operations in Albania and this notice is for the position:

### **Head of Customer Service.**

**For more informations the link below :**

<http://www.ccifa.al/fr/single-news/n/ccifa-recruitment-job-posting-head-of-customer-founded-in-2012-mogo-is-a-financial-institution-active-in-financial-leasing-in-the-automotive-field-1/>

## Découvrez la France - Njihuni me Francën

Cette diversité et la palette de prestations proposées (transports, hébergements, activités, restauration) permettent de satisfaire toutes les attentes. La vivacité de l'offre culturelle et artistique (capitale de la mode, du design, festival...), la richesse de son patrimoine historique ainsi que l'art de vivre à la française (gastronomie et œnotourisme) constituent une image emblématique de la « Destination France » et contribuent à sa notoriété. Source : [www.france.fr](http://www.france.fr)



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=4&v=lk3-TchlE4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=4&v=lk3-TchlE4)

*SOON...*



*nos membres, nos partenaires...*

**Message aux membres**  
**Mesazh drejtuar anëtarëve**



Retrouvez toute l'actualité sur CCI France Albanie/Njihuni me të rejtat e CCI France-Albanie  
[www.ccifa.al](http://www.ccifa.al)

## **{BOARD MEETING}**

La réunion du Conseil d'Administration de la CCI France Albanie  
19 September, 16.00

**{EVENT}** International Tasting: Wine & Spirits -18/10/2017, Tirana Business  
Park; 18.30

With the participation of:

Germany

France

England

Italy

Greece

Norway

Shoqata e Sommelerise

AITA

Turkey (to be confirmed)

Swiss (to be confirmed)

Etc...

**{EVENT}**: "Gathering for a Cause"

*Date and place to be decided*



**Albania's "Shala" River is also granted concession, HPP 100 million USD investment- Recently, some impressive photos from a river in North...**

### **HEC-I over Shala 100 million USD investment**

The Ministry of Energy and Industry yesterday announced the concession winners for the hydropower plant on the Shala River. Referring to the investment value but to the installed power it seems to be one of the biggest hydropower plants in the country. The winning company is a temporary merger of the companies "Çinar-San Hafriyat Nakliyat Insaat Turizm Sanayi Ve Ticaret LTD.STI", "Shala Energy PLC" and "Falak Properties LLC".

#### **Data on HPP**

The installed power specified by calculating the river flow, is expected to be 83,450 kW, with an electricity output of about 321,465,632 kWh. The amount of Fees offered for concessions is 2.1% (6.750.778 kWh) and the time of implementation of the works 36 months. Value excluding VAT is 11,239,204,263 Lek.

The interest for hydropower utilization is for the Shala River waters, between the quotas 486 meters above sea level up to 176.00 meters above sea level, which is also the maximum quota of the Komani reservoir, respecting the technical conditions of design and non-violation of objects that are planned to be built in this watershed.

The Shala River on which is planned to build the hydro power plant is one of the Drini River branches that supplies the Drina cascade, which is the most important energy project in the country, providing over 90% of the energy in the country.

#### **There are also HEC-I Gojan and Bushtrica 1**

The Ministry of Energy announced that it has announced the winners for the hydro power plant Bushtrica 1 which was more than two months appealed to the Public Procurement Commission. According to the winning announcement for this concession is the company "Doko" sh.pk with an investment value of 506 million ALL without VAT while the installed power will be 4220 Kw.

For the winning Gojani hydro power plant was announced "M.C. Inerte" sh.p.k. with an investment value of 1.9 billion Leks (ALL).

Winning companies for three HPPs should submit additional documents to the ministry to open the way for signing the final contract.

Source : <http://aea-al.org/albanias-shala-river-is-also-granted-concession-hpp-100-million-usd-investment/>



## **Paris a été officiellement désignée ville hôte des Jeux olympiques de 2024!**

**Lojërat Olimpikë të së ardhmes: Paris 2024 dhe Los Angeles 2028**

Lors de la 131e session du Comité international olympique (CIO) à Lima, Paris a été désignée ville hôte des Jeux olympiques de 2024, un siècle après ceux de 1924.

« C'est un bonheur immense et une victoire historique », a réagi Anne Hidalgo, maire de Paris, qui était présente lors de l'annonce à Lima. Le Président, à quant à lui, salué le succès cette formidable opportunité pour la France, qui permettra de renforcer son attractivité internationale mais également la place du sport.

Lors de l'annonce, ce sont deux victoires qui ont été annoncées puisque Los Angeles s'est quant à elle vu confier l'organisation de Jeux olympiques d'été 2028.

Les récents grands événements sportifs organisés en France, tels que l'UEFA Euro 2016 ou les Championnats du Monde de handball, soulignent le savoir-faire et l'expertise de la France dans ce domaine et promettent de beaux moments sportifs.

Lojërat Olimpikë të 2024-ës do të zhvillohen në Paris, ndërsa ato të 2028-ës do të zhvillohen në Los Angeles. Lajmërimi është bërë nga Lima, Peru.

Korrikun e kaluar Komiteti Olimpik Ndërkombëtar ka vendosur të përcaktojë dy vendet organizatore të Lojërave njëkohësisht në muajin shtator. Kryeqyteti francez, që ka organizuar deri tani dy Olimpiada, do të kthehet të presë Lojërat Olimpikë 100 vite pas herës së fundit, në 1924-ën.

### **Albania seeks EU, U.S. support for IAP gas pipeline project**

The Albanian government is working to realize the Ionian Adriatic Pipeline gas project, saying it was seeking the support of European Union (EU) and United States to take the project forward. IAP is a proposed natural gas pipeline in southeastern Europe that will stretch from Fier in central Albania, through Montenegro and Bosnia and Herzegovina, to Split, Croatia. It will then be connected with the Trans Adriatic Pipeline (TAP) which is currently being constructed in Albania, Greece and Italy in order to bring gas from Azerbaijan to Europe. Albanian energy minister Damian Gjiknuri said Friday that Albania had completed drafting a gas plan for the country, and had built good cooperation with both the energy community and the countries to be involved in the project. Gjiknuri told reporters Albania was "confident that this project will also be supported by the European Union and United States." This was the fourth management meeting for the IAP project and it was attended by many representatives of national and international institutions, donors, and field experts. The IAP will deliver Azerbaijani gas to several countries in southeastern Europe. The pipeline's capacity will amount to five billion cubic meters of gas per year

### **T-bills Interest Rates Keep Upward Trend**

Treasury bills' interest rates rose again in September's first auction, gradually making investments in these instruments more effective. According to data from the Bank of Albania, at the auction of this week, 12-month maturity bonds were issued at a weighted average interest rate of 2.28%, from 2.23% that had been the interest at the previous auction. The slight but steady increase in interest rates is mainly due to narrowing of the gap between demand and supply over the last months. At auction, the government secured the entire announced amount of Lek 7.2 billion, while the total value of claims amounted to about Lek 7.6 billion. The primary market of government debt securities has found some sort of stability after some cycles of strong fluctuations. The market has finally found a balance, however, it seems that the tendency of interest will be on the increase, taking into account the conjecture of economic and financial development. The easing monetary policy seems to have touched the lowest level, while the economy is marking positive growth rates. Consequently, interest rates are expected to change, probably starting next year. On the other hand, the revival of demand and the soundness of the banking system is expected to improve lending, shifting more funds into private sector financing. However, at present, the relative stability of bond interests "favors the maintenance of low interest rates in the economy.

## **76 VIP Businesses Sue Taxes**

Some 76 VIP companies have addressed this year the Administrative Court to challenge the fines imposed by the tax administration or latter's estimates on businesses' turnover and the value of the taxes they have to pay. Among the plaintiffs are some of the companies with a lot of weight in the economic life of the country. In their lawsuits, they ask the Court to abolish the fines which reach at millions of Lek, or even reimbursement of unduly levied duties from taxes. One of the companies demands the abolition of penalties and interest-delay payments totaling Lek 9 million, while another requires reimbursement of the tax at the amount of Lek 16.5 million, roughly 150 thousand USD. The first half of 2017 marked a boom in business complaints and lawsuits against the tax administration. Scan TV has revealed an official report of. the General Directorate of Taxation, according to which the number of businesses that have sued the tax administration for estimates, fines or unjustified interest rates has currently reached 426.

## **Energy, draught is gone with a 80 million euro bill**

In the past three months, the energy situation in the country deteriorate due to the draught, forcing companies to boost their electricity imports. Prices were difficult to negotiate and the impact in the finances of KESH and OSHEE has been intense. The government was forced to amend the budget and allocate 30 million euros for imports of electricity during times of emergency. OSHEE has carried out five rounds of negotiations but was unable to insure electricity required for September. The company managed to buy 271,620 mWh or 94 percent of the total. Negotiations were held with 10 subjects . OSHEE has used its own funds to buy 50 million worth of electricity for august and July. In September, KESH entered the game after a part of a World Bank loan worth 22.4 million euros was approved. The fund was part of the energy recovery loan. Few days ago, KESH purchases 7.2 million euros of electricity for September. KESH announced that it purchased 115,200 mWh of electricity at an average price of 62.33 euros/mWh. World Bank recently okayed the use of a part of its loan worth 22.4 million euros for emergency cases.

# A LA UNE CETTE SEMAINE/HIGHLIGHTS

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## **OSHEE will buy 20 million EUR of energy for October**

The Energy Distribution Operator (OSHEE) is waiting budget funds to cover foreign imports for the months to come. OSHEE is prepared for any situation, but the budget support that would ease the company's finances, which has spent almost 80 million EUR to purchase energy during this dry summer. "We are waiting the confirmation. The Council of Ministers has decided to support the system financially", said Elton Sevrani, from the Trade Division of the OSHEE. The government changed the budget with a government act to support the energy sector with r billion ALL. OSHEE is currently working for managing the public tenders online. The energy that will be imported for October will be around 20 million EUR. "This allows the OSHEE to attract more bidders from international markets, and gives Albanai the opportunity to become an integral part of international markets in the future, by having an electronic platform. This comes before the opening of the stock market, which we hope will come by the next year", Elton Sevrani said. OSHEE has announced on the online platform that they are buying energy. The interested companies, with their specific accounts, make real time offers.

## **18,000 Businesses Owe Taxes Euro 570mln**

Since 2011, the General Directorate of Taxation has published a list of debtors businesses that are subject to more debt collection. According to official data of the institution, the number of businesses in this list reached about 18,000 in July this year. According to official data from taxes, the obligations of the subjects of the list published on the taxes website has reached at around Lek 78 billion (about Euro 570 million). This figure also includes unpaid obligations, but which are subject to the pardoning law, which extends its effects by 31 December of this year, so this value will be reduced by the automatic application of the deletion of certain types of obligations. This figure also includes obligations that are in process of administrative appeal, effectively secured by bank guarantees. Lastly, the figure of debts is also increased by obligations related to excise duties, which are currently collected by the customs administration. Taxes have recently increased the pressure for forced collection of unpaid business obligations. Measures of forced collection of tax debt are the blocking of bank accounts while the second, third and fourth steps relate to blocking, seizure and confiscation of assets.

## **Unemployment in Albania drops to 13.9 pct in Q2**

Unemployment in Albania fell to 13.9 percent in the second quarter of 2017, marking the lowest level since the third quarter of 2014, the Albanian Institute of Statistics (INSTAT) reported Tuesday. Unemployment for men stood at 14.9 percent, while that for women at 12.5 percent, INSTAT data showed. Speaking in annual terms, employment has seen increasing trend, as it went up by 3.4 percent over the same quarter of 2016. In quarterly terms, employment grew 1.8 percent in the second quarter over the first quarter, INSTAT said. The annual employment growth rate by main economic sectors was 9 percent in the services sector and 2.5 percent in industry, while the agriculture sector marked a decrease in employment by 1.7 percent, statistics showed.

## **Consumptions slows down, Albanians more cautious with purchases**

Albanian consumers seem to have become more cautious with their purchases, by spending less money on them. This is shown by the latest official data, according to which, consumption has slowed down by registering a modest growth. According to the data, in the second quarter of 2017, the index of the volume of sales in retails sale has increased by 1,6% compared to the same period of 2016. Meanwhile, compared to the previous quarter, this index has increased by 1,4%. Let us recall that this period coincides with the period when the country was preparing to hold the 25 June general election, where the new government that is expected to take office today, was elected. This seems to have made consumers more cautious when spending their money.

## **BoA: Tourism brought 156 million euros worth of revenues**

The Bank of Albania has confirmed that revenues that the sector of tourism brought to the country during the first half of the year were 156 million euros. According to the Central Bank, this is a very positive thing, considering that during this period, the country was involved in a deep political crisis and an election campaign. But it seems that they haven't had any effects in reducing the number of tourists, on the contrary, their numbers have risen and the revenues too. Meanwhile, growing interest on tourism has led to many entrepreneurs to build hotels with big capacities and resorts, which in the medium term, are expected to attract many tourists.

## **Albania's retail sales growth slows down in Q2**

Albania's retails sales increased by a real 1.6% year-on-year in the second quarter of 2017, decelerating from a 2.5% growth rate in the first quarter of 2017, the country's statistical office, INSTAT, said on Wednesday. On a quarterly comparison basis, retail sales increased by 1.4% in the April-June period, after decreasing by 16.6% in the previous quarter.

## **Perspectives of Economic Cooperation Discussed**

The Governor of the Bank of Albania, Gent Sejko received Wednesday the Ambassador of Japan to Tirana, Makoto Ito, in an official meeting at the Bank of Albania.

Governor Sejko extended his appreciation to Ambassador Ito for the very good relations between our two countries. They discussed about the potential perspectives of economic cooperation in various fields, among others, trade exchanges, advancement in information technology, and development of infrastructure.

They also talked about the economic landscape in Albania and Governor Sejko underlined the insofar positive performance of economic growth, which is expected to continue on a positive trajectory in the future.

“In this context, the accommodative monetary policy implemented by the Bank of Albania has also contributed to furthering economic development, maintaining consumer price stability, and safeguarding financial stability in Albania,” he said.

About developments in structural reforms in Albania, Governor Sejko said that the continuation of these reforms remains particularly important for improving the business climate and attracting foreign investments in Albania. The extensive and efficient labor market in Albania was highlighted as another significant factor that may be exploited for attracting new investments.

Ambassador of Japan in Tirana, Makoto Ito thanked Governor Sejko for the meeting and commended the substantial contribution by the Bank of Albania in the country's macroeconomic stability.

Ambassador Ito added that Albania, as a factor of stability in the region, contributes to maintaining and fostering the regional political and economic stability.

The interlocutors, in conclusion, pointed out that Albania is already set on the right path toward European integration, and that the Bank of Albania has also played a significant role in this regard, through its contribution to the approximation of the regulatory framework to the European Union directives and standards.

# Les sources de cette semaine/The Source

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**STANDART**

**SCAN TV**

**CCI FRANCE ALBANIE**

**ALBANIAN DAILY NEWS**

**RILINDJA DEMOKRATIKE**

**GAZETA MAPO**

**INTEGRIM**

**TOP CHANNEL**

**BALLKAN WEB**

**DITA**

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## NOTA BENE :

La revue de presse hebdomadaire est une synthèse de l'actualité à partir des nouvelles et articles publiés par les revues hebdomadaires albanaises. Les opinions, critiques et points de vue exprimés ne sauraient refléter une quelconque position des auteurs, de la CCI France Albanie, Le Service Presse de l'Ambassade de France en Albanie et sont simplement le reflet de ce qui a été publié.

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